

REMARKS

Claims 24-72 are pending, with claims 24, 29, 34, 38, 41, 46, 51, 55, 59, 64 and 69 being independent. Claims 34-40 and 51-72 have been withdrawn from consideration, leaving claims 24-33 and 41-50 under consideration, with claims 24, 29, 41 and 46 being independent. Claims 24, 41 and 46 have been amended for clarity. In particular, claims 24 and 41 have been amended to recite that the conductive layer continuously extends along the side edge of the first substrate for more than a pitch of "adjacent ones of said second conductive lines", where the "adjacent ones" language is consistent with claims 29 and 46, and the recitation of "conductive" lines is provided for antecedent basis; and claim 46 has been amended to eliminate an extraneous "the". No new matter has been introduced.

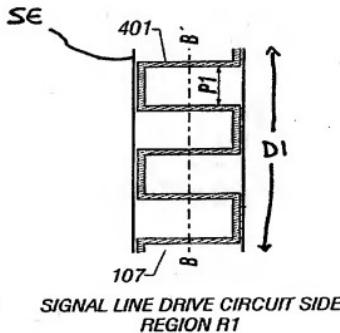
In response to the objection to the drawings, and as discussed above, Fig. 5 has been amended to include the reference label 401 and Fig. 6 has been amended to include the reference labels 401 and 402. As also noted above, support for these amendments may be found in Figs. 7 and 8 and in the specification at, for example, page 30, lines 4-8 and page 31, lines 8-9. No new matter has been introduced, and the amendments are believed to address the Examiner's objections to the drawings.

Claims 24-33 and 41-50 have been rejected under section 112, first paragraph, for allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. In particular, the rejection asserts that the independent claims are not clear as to how the conductive layer extends and what parameter compares with the pitch of the second lines or the scanning lines.

As set forth in the prior response, applicant believes that this language clearly recites that the conductive layer extends "along said side edge of said first substrate" and that the extension of the conductive layer along the side edge is what compares with the pitch of the second lines or the scanning lines. Support for this recitation may be found in the application at, for example, Fig. 7, which shows that the dummy wiring 401 (which exemplifies the recited conductive layer) continuously extends along a first side edge of the substrate for more than P1 in the region R1, and that the dummy wiring 401 continuously extends along a second side edge of the substrate for more than P2 in the region R2. As noted in the application at page 29, lines 20-22, P1 and P2

equal, respectively, the pitches of the scanning lines 106 and the signal lines 105. Since, in both regions R1 and R2, the dummy wiring 401 continuously extends for more than the pitches P1 and P2, the dummy wiring "continuously extends along said side edge of said first substrate for more than a pitch of adjacent ones of said second lines," as recited in claims 24 and 41, and "continuously extends along said side edge of said first substrate for more than a pitch of adjacent ones of said scanning lines," as recited in claims 29 and 46.

As also noted in the prior response, Fig. 7 clearly illustrates this aspect of the claims. For example, as shown in the marked up portion of Fig. 7 inserted below, the dummy wiring 401 (which exemplifies the recited conductive layer) continuously extends along a side edge ("SE") of the substrate for a distance ("D1") that is more than P1 (which, as noted above, equals the pitch of the scanning lines).



For at least these reasons, the rejection under section 112 should be withdrawn.

In response to the arguments from the prior response, the current rejection notes (1) that the claims cannot tell how the conductive layer extends and how to compare the conductive layer with the pitch of the adjacent conductive lines and (2) that the conductive layer (401) interposed between the sealing member and the first substrate is not shown in the drawings. The Examiner's first point is addressed above. The Examiner's second point is addressed by the amendments to Figs. 5 and 6.

Accordingly, for at least these reasons, the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 24, 27, 29, 32, 41, 44, 46 and 49 have been rejected as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of Tanaka. Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection for the reasons discussed in the prior response. In particular, neither AAPA, Tanaka, nor any proper combination of the two describes or suggests a conductive layer that continuously extends along the side edge of the first substrate for more than a pitch of adjacent second conductive lines, as recited in claims 24 and 41, or for more than a pitch of adjacent scanning lines, as recited in claims 29 and 46. As was noted in the prior response, the rejection does not even assert how this aspect of the claims is believed to be found in the prior art.

Claims 25, 30, 42 and 47 have been rejected as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of Tanaka and Yang. Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection because Yang does not remedy the failure of AAPA and Tanaka to describe or suggest the subject matter of the independent claims.

Claims 26, 31, 43 and 48 have been rejected as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of Tanaka and Teramoto. Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection because Teramoto does not remedy the failure of AAPA and Tanaka to describe or suggest the subject matter of the independent claims.

Claims 28, 33, 45 and 50 have been rejected as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of Tanaka and Shimada. Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection because Shimada does not remedy the failure of AAPA and Tanaka to describe or suggest the subject matter of the independent claims.

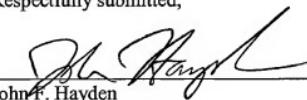
Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance.

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The fees in the amount of \$1240 for the second month extension of time fee (\$450) and the RCE fee (\$790) are being paid concurrently herewith on the Electronic Filing System (EFS) by way of Deposit Account authorization. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,


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